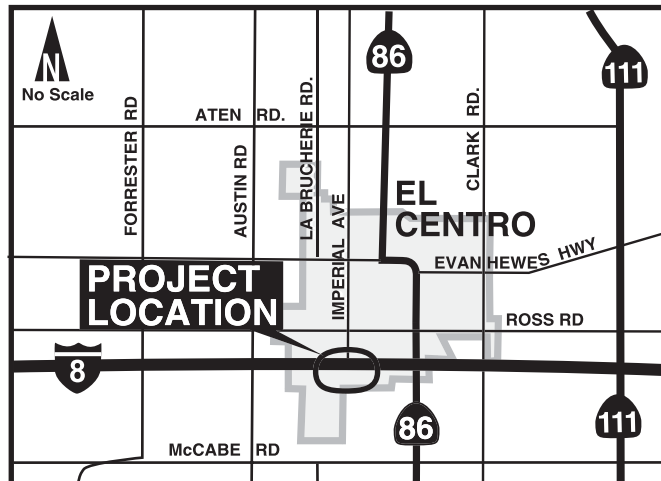




# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Notice of Availability of the Environmental Document and Public Hearing/ Notice of Intent to Adopt a Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration Interstate 8/Imperial Avenue Interchange Project



### WHAT'S BEING PLANNED?

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is proposing to reconstruct the interchange at Imperial Avenue and Interstate 8 (I-8). The reconstruction project proposes to construct a full interchange at this location.

### WHY THIS AD?

Caltrans has studied the effects the project alternatives may have on the environment. Our studies show that the project will not significantly affect the quality of the environment. An Environmental Assessment/Initial Study (EA/IS) and Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) which discusses potential project impacts has been prepared. This notice is to inform you of the EA/IS and Proposed MND, its availability for review, and a scheduled public hearing. The public hearing is to give you an opportunity to review and discuss proposed project features and the results of environmental studies before a final environmental document is prepared. Caltrans intends to adopt this MND pending completion of the public review period that starts January 27, 2004 and ends March 8, 2004.

### ABOUT THE PUBLIC HEARING:

There will be no formal presentation. This will be an "Open Forum" hearing where you will have the opportunity to speak directly with Caltrans representatives about the project and its environmental impacts. All substantive comments received will be addressed in the Final Environmental Document.

### WHAT'S AVAILABLE?

The EA/IS and Proposed MND which describes the project is now available to the public for review at the following locations: El Centro Public Library, 539 State Street; City of El Centro Planning Department, 1275 Main Street, El Centro; Imperial County Planning Department, 939 West Main Street, El Centro; and the Caltrans District 11 in Old Town, 2829 Juan Street, San Diego.

Project maps/plans, the EA/IS and Proposed MND, technical reports, and other project information are also available for review and copying at the Caltrans District Office located at 2829 Juan Street, San Diego on weekdays, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To obtain a copy of the EA/IS and Proposed MND, call or write to Ross Cather, Caltrans, P.O. Box 85406, San Diego, CA 92186-5406. The environmental document will also be available on-line at the following web address: [www.dot.ca.gov/dist11](http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist11).

### WHERE YOU COME IN

Have the potential impacts been addressed? Do you have information that should be included? Do you agree with the findings? Your comments will be part of the public record. If you wish, you may make comments at the public hearing, or submit written comments until **March 8, 2004** to: John Chisholm, Caltrans, P.O. Box 85406, MS: 46, San Diego, CA 92186-5406. If there are no major concerns or comments on the project, Caltrans will request approval from the Federal Highway Administration and proceed with the final project design.

### PUBLIC HEARING:

TIME: February 25, 2004 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

PLACE: El Centro Council Chambers, 1275 Main Street, El Centro, CA

Individuals who require special accommodation (American Sign or Foreign Language interpreter, accessible seating, documentation in alternate formats, etc.) are requested to contact the District 11 Public Information Office at (619) 688-6670 at least 14 days prior to the scheduled meeting date. TDD users may call 619/688-3214.

### CONTACT

For more information about this project, please contact Ross Cather, Project Manager, at (619) 688-3633, or John Chisholm, Senior Environmental Planner, at (858) 616-6610. For general information about transportation issues, please call the Caltrans Public Information Office at (619) 688-6670.